ANN KIRKPATRICK

1st District, Arizona

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ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
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HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0301

Oct. 20, 2014

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Administrator Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460

The Honorable Gina McCarthy

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

I offer this statement for the record on behalf of Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick, who represents Arizona's Congressional District One. This district includes the copper smelter near Hayden, which is the focus of today's hearing regarding the ongoing compliance efforts of Asarco, a mining company that operates here.

The mining industry brings more than \$4.9 billion annually and 52,100 jobs to our state's economy. As Rep. Kirkpatrick noted in her Sept. 10, 2014 letter to you, she is urging all parties involved to quickly and fairly resolve compliance issues in a way that both protects these jobs and protects our environment.

Time is of the essence, because an agreement must be reached in time for Asarco to place equipment orders by the end of this year in order to meet regulatory compliance deadlines. Failure to reach an agreement will force Asarco to choose between curtailing operations or shutting down the smelter. We must find a way to get this done.

Rep. Kirkpatrick once again asks that the EPA give top priority and adequate resources to achieve a coordinated settlement as quickly as possible so Asarco has time to complete the retrofit of the Hayden copper smelter in compliance with regulatory deadlines.

Thank you for your help on this matter of great importance to District One's working families and our local economy.

Sincerely,

Ken Montoya
Legislative Director

Office of U.S. Representative Ann Kirkpatrick, Arizona District One